

Community Forestry Program — Spring 2009

of the NJDEP Division of Parks & Forestry — State Forest Service — Newsletter

Special Features

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www.communityforestry.nj.gov

COOL CITIES INITIATIVE 2009

The Cool Cities Initiative is geared-up for a successful year in 2009. The Initiative promotes energy conservation and lower energy costs

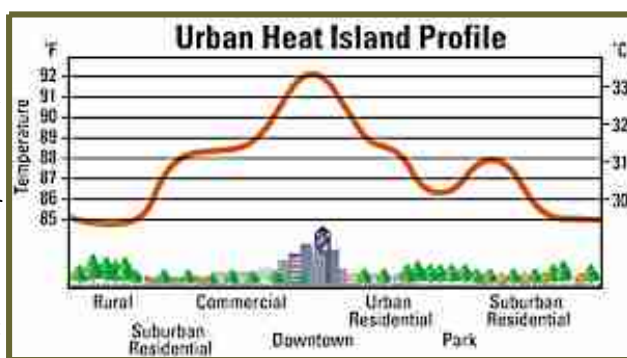
through the planting of trees in underserved residential communities and low-rise, mixed-use areas. Mitigation of the urban heat island effect is the most important driving factor behind the Initiative. In the summer, cities are up to 12°F warmer than the surrounding suburban and rural areas. That heat is stored in the city as a result of being trapped by man-made materials such as tar, brick, metal and concrete and thus is not able to escape back into the atmosphere at night. Sunrise adds even more heat.

This year's Initiative will focus on 13 municipalities in northern New Jersey that will have signed a memo of agreement with the DEP: Bogota Boro, Clifton City, Garfield City, Haledon, Linden City, North Bergen Township, Rahway City, Carteret, Hawthorne, Somerville, West New York, Woodbridge, and Phillipsburg for a total of 2,369 new trees. Additionally nine southern New Jersey

communities will be getting 2,848 trees: Palmyra, Merchantville, Cape May City, Vineland City, Hamilton (Mercer), Trenton, Lakewood, Asbury Park, and Neptune.

As one of the contractors of the Cool Cities Initiative, the The NJ Tree Foundation partners with the NJ State Parole Board to hire a seasonal planting crew, creating transitional jobs for men under parole supervision. Through the Green Streets program, the men will plant 1,000 trees in Camden, Newark, Bayonne, Essex County, Montclair, and Roselle.

Due to the prior success of the Cool Cities Initiative, the agreement with the Board of Public Utilities has now been expanded to secure the program for at least the next four years. This will allow the DEP to bring thousands of street trees to other qualified communities who have or are working on their Community Forestry Management Plan and meet several other criteria. Neighborhoods receiving these trees will also be seeing 12"x18" green and white signs displaying the logo of each participating State agency. The signs will read, "Cool Cities Initiative — Green Trees Planted to Save Energy."



NEW JERSEY FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

The Community Forestry Program took an imaginative leap this year by purchasing a booth at the New Jersey Flower and Garden Show at the Raritan Expo Center in Edison. Included in the booth's four-panel showboard were the Shade Tree Federation, Treasure Our Trees license plates, educational outreach materials for the Arbor Day tubelings and the NJ Tree Foundation. The CFP set-up shop directly across from Bartlett Tree Experts, and next door to the Somerset County Park Commission.

The event opened on Thursday, February 12 and concluded on

Sunday, February 15. It was estimated that 20,000 to 25,000 individuals passed through the show during those 43 hours — an enormous opportunity to heighten awareness of the causes celebrated by the Community Forestry Program.

In addition to the candy trees provided by Donna Massa, President of the Shade Tree Federation, members of the CFP, NJTF, and NJSTF were able to seize the day, speaking with interested members of the public about such programs as the NJ Tree Foundation's Affordable Landscaping Service, trays of 98 evergreen seedlings for sale at \$25 delivered to your door, and the tree-related publications offered by the Federation,

not to mention the tree plates which adorn over 11,000 vehicles across the Garden State.

Many passers-by had questions about the programs, and about the tray of evergreen tubelings on the booth's table. Questions were readily answered and information in pamphlet form was provided. Hundreds of free vinyl holders for insurance and registration cards

were distributed advertising the Treasure Our Trees license plates. Time was spent explaining how the selling of the tree plates funds grant programs

for municipal and county community forestry throughout New Jersey.

The Flower and Garden Show featured not only competing garden clubs, but also several 1,000-square foot landscape designs vying for blue ribbons. Vendors were hawking a wide range of consumer goods including Amish bread, hand-made jewelry, Pennsylvania honey, laser-carved wood inlaid tables, aromatic hand soaps, and an amazing pet marsupial called a Sugar Bear, just to name a few. The consensus is that this was a great opportunity to promote the many aspects of the Community Forestry program and the Treasure Our Trees license plates.



Aerial view of the Community Forestry Program presentation booth

How to Reach Us



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WEB SITES

**[www.communityforestry.
nj.gov](http://www.communityforestry.nj.gov)**

www.TreasureOurTrees.com

***Buy the plates that plant
the trees across NJ!***

**Numerous articles
written by
Caroline Pastore**

THE HISTORIC BLACKWELLS MILLS FIELD OFFICE

The year 2009 will see the beginning of extensive renovations to the Blackwells Mills Community Forestry Program's field office at 625 Canal Road in Somerset (Franklin Township). Restoration and rehabilitation will include, but are not limited to the roof, gutters, windows, porch, and most of the electrical system. This beautiful late 1700's home has been weathered by generations of use as both a homestead and an office building. Years of environmental influences have contributed to the deterioration of this brick and wooden structure.

The house is in the area of Franklin Township known as Blackwells Mills, which is between Griggstown and Millstone with the nearest post office located in Somerset. The area is known as the "Crossroads of the American Revolution," and has a wealth of American history with the famous Rockingham State Historic Site less than eight miles south of the house.

The electrical system in the building will be upgraded starting in early May 2009, while the outside work is tentatively scheduled to begin in July. On October 24, 2008, bids were entered for the external restoration project, and in April both architect and construction supervisors began surveying the structure. The house, which is part of the Six Mile Run Historic District, is listed in both the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. Therefore, all restoration will comply with the standards set forth by the Secretary of the Interior and all rehabilitation will comply with local construction codes for fire and safety.

Except for the missing white picket fence seen in several of the historic photos of the house, it largely resembles the original structure dating from about 1770 with the additions to the north and to the south clearly evident. The northern porch and kitchen areas were added just prior to the Civil War, while the southern addition was completed well into the 1900's. Unlike the rest of the building, the southern portion was built without fireplaces—a nod to the rise of electricity within the home.

The field office shares the 3,000-acre Six Mile Run Reservoir Site with the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park maintenance crew headquarters. Additionally, there are trails nearby for hikers, bicyclers and horses. The 29.9-mile-long D & R Canal Towpath trail is just across Canal Road and the D & R Canal.

Visitors are always welcome between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and are guaranteed a quick tour during which you would see original yellow pine floor boards that are up to 17 inches wide, hand-blown window panes and hand-wrought nails.

The New Jersey Community Forestry Program and the New Jersey Tree Foundation staff feel an attachment to the house and are eager to see the work completed at this lovely property which was once a home and working farm. The Blackwells house certainly has retained its unique charm throughout the more than 228 years it has stood here, and is now in the process of being brought back to its former glory.



Blackwells Mills House (top) and the canal it faces

COMMUNITY FORESTRY — BY THE NUMBERS

11.5 million: kWh of energy saved by year 31 for the 2008 Cool Cities Initiative trees

1.6 million: Community forestry related jobs in the USA

11,059: Pairs of *Treasure Our Trees* license plates sold as of January 30, 2009

4,787: Cool Cities trees planned for Fall 2009

4,468: Cool Cities trees planned for Spring 2009

2,860: Continuing Education Units awarded for 2008

620: Attendees at the 2008 NJ Shade Tree Federation Meeting

229: Age of the Blackwells Mills House and Field Office

200: Approved Community Forestry Management Plans (CFM)

87: Approved Second CFM Plans

1: Third Approved CFM Plans

187: Trees & shrubs planted at Arbor Day in Tewksbury

156: Tree City USA towns in New Jersey

104: Green Community Grants in the last 3 years

78: CORE Training students in February 2009 in Paramus

43: Species of trees planted by Cool Cities Initiative in 2008

29.9: Miles of D&R Canal Towpath trail

24: Cool Cities that received trees in 2008

22: Acres in the David C. Shaw Arboretum



ARBOR DAY 2009

Arbor Day 2009 was hosted in Tewksbury, New Jersey on April 24. New Jersey has celebrated Arbor Day on the last Friday of April for the past 60 years.

According to the National Arbor Day Foundation, Arbor Day was initiated in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska. Other states began passing legislation to observe Arbor Day each year with appropriate ceremonies. By 1920, more than 45 states and territorial possessions were celebrating Arbor Day. Arbor Day is now celebrated in all 50 states.

Throughout the world, people of all ages are planting trees, caring for them and learning their value.

- In the USA, our tree planting event is on Arbor Day.
- In Israel, it is called the New Year's Day of the Trees.
- Korea has a Tree-Loving Week.

- Iceland has a Student Afforestation Day.
- Yugoslavia holds an Arbor Day in the spring and an Afforestation Day in the autumn.
- India celebrates a National Festival of Tree Planting.

The trees planted on Arbor Day show a concern for future generations. The act of planting a tree represents belief that the tree will grow and provide shade, wood products, wildlife habitat, erosion control, shelter from the wind, higher property values, lower crime, and inspiration for ourselves and our children.

"The celebration of Arbor Day presents a priceless opportunity."

**— John Rosenow,
NADF President**

NJ SHADE TREE FEDERATION CONFERENCE

The New Jersey Shade Tree Federation held its 83rd annual meeting at the Crowne Plaza in Cherry Hill the last full weekend of October 2008. There were 546 registrants this year, not including the number of walk-ins, which swelled the total to 620 individuals with all signs pointing to expansion for 2009 and beyond.

The number of attendees at the 2008 CORE training also increased, and based on the evaluations, it was a grand success. Preparation for the 2009 conference, which will be held on October 23, 24, and 25 has already begun to ensure another great event for speakers, vendors and guests.

Speakers addressed topics including tree insects, diseases, roots, hormones, management, mortality and recycling among other related topics. Additionally, throughout the day registrants had opportunities to peruse the booths and information tables, attend the CORE session, and witness an electrical safety demonstration courtesy of JCP&L.

There were four Green Community Achievement

Award recipients for 2008: Stubby Warmbold, founder of CitiLog; Mayor William Pikolycky of Woodbine; Guy Deitrich and the Mafco Worldwide Corporation; and Stratford Borough. The 2008 limited edition award framed print featured a Champion White Walnut tree (also known as butter-nut) that was discovered in a residential backyard in the Town of Dover.



Nine new Certified Tree Experts were awarded their certificates and have been added to the online directory of Certified Tree Experts for New Jersey. Each passed an all-day written and field test after meeting other qualifications. Certified Tree Experts are held to the highest professional and ethical standards by the New Jersey

Board of Certified Tree Experts.

The Federation looks forward to a year of educational opportunities in 2009 and to the next annual gathering of “green” individuals with the safety, security and future of New Jersey’s trees in mind.

**“...620
individuals...All
signs point to
expansion for 2009
and beyond”**

WHAT IS THE SHADE TREE FEDERATION ?

The New Jersey Shade Tree Federation is a non-profit organization that has been helping individuals and agencies that are entrusted with the selection, planting and care of trees since 1926. Their goal is to improve the status of the shade tree profession and to establish liaisons between allied associations, businesses, and governments to provide tree-lined streets for future generations.

The New Jersey Shade Tree Federation is dedicated to the education of the public. The Federation seeks to provide members with cutting edge arboreal information to promote and protect New Jersey’s shade trees. The Federation accomplishes this in several ways, the foremost being the three-day annual Shade Tree Federation Meeting and Expo. The Federation also publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The Shade Tree*. Additionally, there is a guide for sale entitled *Trees for New Jersey Streets*, which

serves as an educational tool and how-to guide for planting trees according to property size, proximity to a home or business, infrastructure or sidewalk, crown sizes and height at maturity, among other important factors.

The Federation frequently collaborates with and promotes other related organizations such as Tree City USA, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture, Arbor Day Foundation, NJFS Community Forestry Program, NJ Community Forestry Council, and the NJ Tree Foundation.

Visit the NJ Shade Tree Federation on the

Internet at:

www.njstf.org

WHAT DOES “FALL DIG HAZARD TREE” MEAN?

...seem to do best if planted in the Spring.

They are highly intolerant and have a high risk of failure if dug in the Fall.

The following is a list of Fall Dig Hazard Trees from Princeton Nurseries. These trees seem to do best if planted in the spring. They are highly intolerant and have a high risk of failure if dug in the fall.

Each species of tree has a different set of characteristics because they evolved to grow best in slightly different places. In regard to balled and burlapped trees, one common factor is that the larger the rootball dug at the nursery, the better the chance of survival for the tree once it is planted. Also, the longer a tree stays in the ground at a nursery, the bigger it gets and the more valuable. For this reason nurseries usually prefer to dig

trees just before they will be shipped.

Trees that are shipped in the fall are usually dug in the fall and trees that are shipped in the spring are usually dug in the spring. Therefore, whether transplanting or buying one of these trees it is best to do it in the spring.

If you absolutely must transplant one of the trees listed below during the fall season, be sure to dig an oversize rootball and give the tree plenty of water in its new hole. These steps will provide your tree with the best chance of surviving long-term in its new location.

FALL DIG HAZARD TREES LIST

Scientific Name

Common Name

Acer buergerianum

Trident Maple

Betula varieties

Birches

Carpinus varieties

Hornbeams

Celtis varieties

Hackberries

Cercidiphyllum varieties

Katsuras

Crataegus varieties

Hawthornes

Fagus varieties

Beeches

Halesia varieties

Silverbells

Koelreuteria paniculata

Golden Raintree

Liquidambar varieties

Sweet Gums

Liriodendron varieties

Tulip Trees

Malus—in leaf

Crabapples

Nyssa sylvatica

Black Gum Tupelo

Ostrya

Hophornbeams

Prunus—all stone fruits

Plum, almond, apricot, cherry,

Pyrus varieties

Pears

Quercus—all but *Q. palustris*

most Oaks

Salix—weeping varieties

Weeping Willows

Sorbus varieties

Mountain Ashes

Tilia tomentosa varieties

Silver Lindens

Ulmus parvifolia varieties

Lacebark or Chinese Elms

Zelkova varieties

Zelkovas



Most oak trees (see acorns, below) and all stone fruit (see above) trees are fall dig hazards.



PRESERVING HERITAGE AND HISTORIC TREES

The following article was contributed by **Mr. George Klinger**, a member of the Community Forestry Council and the Freehold Township Shade Tree Commission Chairman who composed his thoughts and knowledge on the importance of preserving heritage trees in a bustling, industrious New Jersey. We thank Mr. Klinger for his kind contribution.

Saving Heritage and Historic Trees in Freehold Township, NJ

Freehold Township has a *Heritage and Historic Tree Ordinance* designed to protect and prevent the unnecessary removal of our larger, more important specimen trees, particularly those that are part of our local history. While it may be possible to obtain tree removal permits in special situations, it is the desire of Freehold Township to save as many of our trees as possible. Often, trees can be saved with only a slightly modified building plan.

Heritage trees are defined as trees of a certain size range measured by trunk diameter at breast height or DBH, based on tree species and variety. Because different tree species and varieties grow at different rates, different sizes are assigned to different tree types. For example, the smallest heritage tree is 14.5 feet in diameter, while the largest is over 50 feet, yet the trees may be approximately the same age. The Shade Tree Supervisor has a current list of tree species with their corresponding DBH measurements.

Historic trees are also defined as trees noted in a particular historical reference, such as having been witness to the signing of a treaty during the American Civil War on a specific date. Some historic trees have even shown-up in dated landscape paintings and photographs with historic buildings.

Distance from the residential site does not affect the protections of the heritage or historic tree ordinance, nor does it allow one to remove the trees. The Shade Tree Supervisor must issue a tree removal permit before any part of the tree may be safely removed. Failure to obtain approval prior to removing a historic or heritage tree may result in fines or a summons. In order to avoid the expense of a fine or the time consumption of a day in court, citizens of Freehold Township need to seek the advice of the Township Shade Tree Department Supervisor before attempting to remove any tree.

Tree pruning work on heritage or historic trees must be executed in accordance with the National Arborist Association

protocols and the American National Standards Institute. We recommend enlisting the aid of a NJ Certified Tree Expert to protect the health of the treasured resource entrusted to our care.

New Jersey's largest Champion Tulip grows in Freehold. It is located on property that was developed off of U.S. Route 9 for a world-class auto dealership and show room. This particular tulip is estimated to be well over 200 years old, measuring 20 feet in circumference and 116 feet tall with a canopy span of approximately 116 feet in width. This Champion tree was certified by State Forester Dave Johnson in 2001.

“Historic trees are defined as trees noted in a particular historical reference, such as having been witness to the signing of a treaty during the American Civil War on a specific date.”

The Heritage and Historic Tree Ordinance protects trees of this stature from being eliminated. Very few other municipalities in New Jersey are known to have a Tree Saving ordinance of this nature that protects Historic and Heritage trees but maybe others will now be inspired to follow the example of Freehold Township.



Monmouth Battlefield State Park

Treasure Our Trees

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Division of Parks and Forestry



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